Milling Orders

2520. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether foodgrain mill owners are refusing to place the milling orders with the FCI;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the milling specification released by FCI is often below the standards;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Paddy procurred by FCI is being milled by entering into milling contracts with the rice millers according to their milling capacity. During current Kharif Marketing Season, a total quantity of 18.95 lakh MTs of paddy has been procured by FCI (mainly in Punjab and Haryana). Out of 17.30 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in Punjab and 1.64 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in Haryana during 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Season, 15.05 lakh tonnes and 1.49 lakh tonnes respectively have already been contracted for milling in these States.

(c) No, Sir. FCI is following the specifications as fixed by Government of India.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Illegal Trade of Cattle

2521. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of cattle being sent from Bihar to Bangladesh for the bovine meat;

(b) the number of such cases of illegal trade of cattle which came to light during the last three years and the number of illegal cattle traders arrested in this regard; and

(c) the action and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement showing the number of cattle seized by Border Security Force troops while being smuggled to Bangladesh on the Indo-Bangladesh border during the last three years is furnished in statement enclosed.

(c) A series of measures have been taken to check the smuggling of cattle on Indo-Bangladesh border and these include deployment of additional battalions, increase in the number of outpost towers, intensified patrolling and phased border fencing.

Statement

Seizure of Cattle by BSF on Indo-Bangladesh Border during the last Three Years

	1994	1995	1996	1997 (Upto Feb)
West Bengal	29539	30608	21225	5047
Assam	1070	1060	1092	171
Meghalaya	336	259	138	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Tripura	1492	943	666	97

Seedling of Coconut

2522. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa has made tremendous progress in plantation and yield of coconut in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of action or proposed to be taken to make available adequate coconut plants seedlings and other infrastructure facilities in Orissa; and

(c) the number of seedlings of coconut distributed during 1996-97 and proposed to be made available during 1997-98 in Orissa particularly in the Jaipur District?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The area under coconut in Orissa has increased from 38.4 thousand hectares in 1993-94 to 42.90 thousand hectares in 1995-96, whereas the yield has decreased from 5716 nuts per hectare to 5466 nuts per hectare during the same period.

(b) The Coconut Development Board is implementing a Scheme, namely, Production and Distribution of TXD seedlings through the coconut nurseries and other infrastructure facilities available with the State Horticulture Department by providing 50% financial assistance. A total of 65,000 TXD seedlings have been produced and 1,24,200 seed nuts sown for production of seedlings during 8th Plan period.

(c) Jaipur is a Sub-Division in District of Koraput in Orissa. The number of seedlings distributed during 1996-97 and proposed to be made available during